GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:133
ANSWERED ON:17.10.2008
DIFFICULTIES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF IWDP
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the difficui`ties being faced by the Government in successful implementation of the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) in the country and the remedia 1 action taken in this regard ;

(b) whether the. funds released under the programme have been fully utilised by various States;

(c) if so, the details of the funds released and utilised during each of the last three years, State-v rise;

(d) whether the Government has not released funds Under Area Development Programmes during the last one year; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a) The main difficulties being faced by the Government in successful implementation of Integrated Wastelands Envelopment Programme (IWDP) in the country are lack of dedicated institutions with adequate professional support at Centre, State and District levels; a weak monitoriag mechanism at Centre, State, District and Watershed levels; and inadequate cost per ha. The remedial action taken in this regard by the Department is adoption of the Common Guidelines, 2008 for Watershed Programmes which addresses these issues. (b&c) Under IWDP, funds are released in 5 to 7 installments during the project period of 5 years. The next installment for the project is released only when the unspent balance is less than 50% of the previous installment released. The funds for the project do not lapse at the end of the financial year and rolls over to the next year. Therefore, the amount released for the project is fully utilised only on completion of the project. The State-wise funds released under the IWDP during the last 3 years is given at Annexure.

(d&e) The Government has released Rs. 1164.54 crores during 2007-08 for the Area Development Programmes.